

Social Studies Update

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Check Out:

- [The C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#)
- [Social Studies "Agora" Site](#)
-Click on social studies
- [Social Studies Google Calendar](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Twitter](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Diigo](#)
- [Iowa Department of Education Social Studies Page](#)

Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant at the Iowa Department of Education, at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov or 515-725-7842

Iowa Council for the Social Studies Conference

The Iowa Council for the Social Studies annual conference takes place October 6th (evening) and October 7th (all-day) at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center. The theme for this year's conference is **Sailing the "C"s: Getting to the Core with Social Studies**.



The conference will feature over 25 different sessions and workshops dedicated to the "C"s– C3 Framework, Creativity, College and Career Readiness, Civics, Iowa Core, Critical Thinking, Collaboration Connection, and Community.

Keynote speakers include Dr. Bob Bain (University of Michigan) and Dr. Scott McCleod (Prairie Lakes AEA).

For additional information regarding the conference go to <http://www.iowasocialstudies.org/2014-icss-conference.html>

To register for the conference go [here](#).

Questions? Contact Leslie Pralle Keehn at prallekeehn@gmail.com.

In addition, check out the latest ICSS newsletter [here](#).

Constitution Day 2014

Constitution Day is September 17th each year. This year, the Iowa Department of Education has partnered with the Iowa Judicial Branch, the Iowa Bar Association, and the State Historical Museum of Iowa to help schools actively take part in celebrating the Constitution. We will honor the spirit of the day through a celebration of the Constitution from September 11th-17th. Scheduled events include:

- **September 11th: Iowa Supreme Court on the Road**

The Iowa Supreme Court will

hear oral arguments at 7:00 PM at West High School in Iowa City. The event is free and open to the public.

- **September 17th: Iowa Supreme Court Hearings**

The Court will hear two oral arguments, beginning at 9:00 AM involving Constitutional issues. The event will be live-streamed so local schools can watch the process in real-time. Go [here](#) for more information.

- **September 17th: The Constitution and Civil Rights in Iowa History**

Judge Michael Streit will offer insight on Iowa's Constitutional history. He will discuss the case of [Ralph](#), Alexander Clark, and Edna Griffin. The event is from 6:30-8 at the State Historical Building (600 E. Locust) and is free and open to the public.

- **Know Your Constitution Theme Released**

The Iowa Bar Association will release its Know Your Constitution quiz on September 17th. Go [here](#) for more information.

Social Studies News

United States Senate Youth Program

The United States Senate Youth Program was established in 1962 by a Senate resolution. It is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. If selected students spend a week in Washington DC, all expenses paid, and receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

Additional information is available [here](#) and [here](#).



Civics Renewal Network

The Civics Renewal Network is an alliance of 26 organizations committed to working together to increase the visibility of civics education. This alliance has built a new website, www.civicsrenewalnetwork.org, which features a variety of resources from the partner organizations. These include:

- Preamble Challenge Toolkit
- Collection of resources from each organization

College Board Releases New AP US History Framework

College Board recently released a new AP US History Framework. Resources related to the new framework include:

- [Overview of Course Revisions](#)
- [Examples of Key Changes for US History](#)

Des Moines Featured on C-SPAN

Did you know that C-SPAN selected Des Moines as part of their Great Cities Tour this past summer? Des Moines was featured on C-SPAN at the end of July. Check out the collection of videos

covering the history of Des Moines and Iowa by visiting www.c-span.org/LocalContent/DesMoines.



CIRCLE Releases Interactive Map on Youth Voting

CIRCLE (The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement) recently released a new interactive map on the role of young people in American politics. The maps allow you to visually see votes cast and population data on young people in each congressional district. Check it out [here](#).

We the People Competition Back in Iowa

The We the People competition has been on hiatus for the last few years in Iowa. The competition is coming back to Iowa. A state level We the People competition will be held December 9th in Des Moines. Check out www.iowabar.org for more information or email jwheeler@iowabar.org with questions. Also, try out the We the People e-book for free [here](#).

"If you don't know history, then you don't know anything. You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree."

-Michael Crichton

Social Studies Resources

Teach Mideast

Teach Mideast is a free, non-partisan, resource for teaching about the Middle East. The site has a collection of resources including background essays, activities, maps, video clips and other resources. Check it out at <http://teachmideast.org>.

TeachMideast

Federal Budget Challenge

If you had a chance to plan the federal budget, what would your priorities be? Would you be up to the challenge? The Federal Budget Challenge allows students to set their priorities and see how their choices impact the budget and the American people. Check it out at www.federalbudgetchallenge.org.

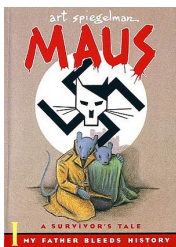
National Archives Blog

Did you know the National Archives has a blog? They regularly feature artifacts and resources from the Archives. In a blog post earlier this year, the Archives featured Elizabeth Dinschel, Education Director at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library discussing Edith Galt Wilson's role in WWI. Check it out [here](#).

Social Studies Resources

Iowa Holocaust Council Webinar

The Iowa Holocaust Council recently sponsored a webinar about *Maus*, a graphic novel about the Holocaust. Check out the webinar at <http://youtu.be/NC77-xXcn0U>



New Bill of Rights in Action Newsletter

Each quarter, the Constitutional Rights Foundation publishes a newsletter on various civic issues. Check the latest issue out [here](#). This issue contains:



- The Chinese Civil War
- The Cold War
- Women in the Military

Khan Academy Has Social Studies Videos Too!

Khan Academy got its start teaching students about math. However, they have grown their teaching video collections to include various social studies topics. Check out the history videos [here](#), the civics videos [here](#) and the economics videos [here](#).



Explore the Digital Collections of the WWII Museum

Even though the WWII Museum is in New Orleans, you can access many of their resources from the comfort of your own home. The Museum has over 7,000 oral histories and 100,000 photographs alone. Go to



<http://ww2online.org> to explore the collection.

Wikia Maps

Wikia Maps allows you to create custom maps by uploading a picture or selecting a picture from the Wikia Maps gallery. You can also create maps on top of pictures you upload. Check out Wikia Maps at

<http://maps.wikia.com/wiki/Special:Maps>.

Dream of a Nation

Dream of a Nation is a new book being offered entirely free for educators. The book was put together by a number of well known figures and covers topics ranging from environmental stewardship to education. Check it out at

<http://dreamofanation.org/> FREE classroom sets of the book can be received by contacting Kelly@dreamofanation.org.

The Road to Little Rock

The Road to Little Rock is an award-winning documentary about the path taken by the nine children who sought enrollment at Central High School in Little Rock in 1957. The curriculum for the documentary is entirely FREE and can be viewed by going [here](#).

History Alive! Save the Dates

Each year the State Historical Museum of Iowa offers programming for students in grades 5-12. This year is no different. Check out this year's offerings [here](#). Each workshop is just \$5 per student. Email sarah.macht@iowa.gov to make reservations.

Docs of Freedom

Introducing a modern take on the traditional textbook– Docs of Freedom. The Bill of Rights Institute had put together an entirely FREE digital course on history, government, and economics. It was written by teachers, focuses on the use of primary sources and is accessible anywhere. Check it out by visiting www.docsoffreedom.org.

FREE Congressional Moments App

The Congressional Moments app uses an array of photography and other primary source images from the Library of Congress's digital collection to show that our lives are profoundly shaped by the actions of the national legislature.



Download the app for FREE in the iTunes store.

How a Bill Becomes a Law: Check Out Legex to See It Visually

Legex is a one of a kind interactive visualization that allows anyone to explore patterns of lawmaking in Congress. This tool was created by the University of Washington Center for American Politics and Public Policy. The online tool provides graphic data points for every bill and resolution introduced in Congress since 1973 to the present. The information can be sorted by topic, political party or even by the representatives themselves. Check it out at www.legex.org.

Teaching with Historic Places

The National Park Service has a fabulous resource called

"Teaching with Historic Places."

Their website contains over 150 lesson plans related to the use of historic places around the United States.

Check it out at

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/>



Iowa Stock Market Game

The Stock Market Game is an educational program based on a real-life simulation of the stock market. Students can work in teams or individually to manage a \$100,000 portfolio for 10 weeks of competition. For additional information go [here](#). Questions? Contact Erika Vonk at erica.vonk@dordt.edu at the Dordt College Center for Economic Education.

Student News Net is FREE This Month

Student News Net is an award winning website dedicated to providing learning resources around current issues and events. Check it out at

www.studentnewsnet.com.

This month, they are offering a free trial for Iowa teachers.

Use:

Username: ssiowa

Password: snndemo400

National History Club

Interested in starting a history club chapter at your school? Members of the National History Club participate in local and national programs and create their own activities. There are over 500 clubs across the country. Additional information can be found [here](#) or check out the NHC website at

www.nationalhistoryclub.org.

"History is a vast early warning system."

-Norman Cousins

National History Day

National History Day is an academic program for elementary and secondary students that embraces the historical thinking process. More than half a million students participate each year. Students select historical topics based off the yearly theme, conduct extensive research, and analyze and interpret the significance of their topic in history. They choose to demonstrate

knowledge of their topic through one of five categories: website, exhibit, performance, documentary, or paper.

The theme this year is "leadership and legacy."

The National History Day office is putting on a series of webinars this month to provide resources to teachers participating in NHD. Check them out [here](#).

The 2014-2015 NHD theme poster can be seen [here](#), the theme book can be found [here](#) and the contest rule book can be viewed [here](#). Participation in NHD supports implementation of the Iowa Core and best practices in social studies. Questions? Contact the Iowa National History Day coordinator at katie.craven@iowa.gov or go [here](#).

NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

Professional Development Opportunities

Ashbrook Center Webinars

Each year, the Ashbrook Center hosts a webinar each month to help teachers gain content knowledge to support the teaching of US history and government. The webinars are entirely FREE. Each webinar is on a Saturday and starts at 10 a.m. Central time and lasts one hour and 15 minutes. Check out the full schedule of webinars and register for them by going [here](#).

Smithsonian Online Education Conferences

The Smithsonian offers several online conference throughout each school year for FREE. Past conference topics include Abraham Lincoln, Environmental Education Series, Diplomacy in Action, and Teaching about Presidential Inaugurations. To sign up for future conferences, or to view recordings of past conferences, go to <http://smithsonianeducationconferences.org>.

FREE Courses from National Geographic

National Geographic is offering two free courses through Coursera. They are:

- [Facilitating Learning Through Outdoor Watershed Education](#) (Sept. 17-Oct. 29)
- [Water: The Essential Resource](#) (Oct. 15-Dec. 17)

Social Studies Awards, Grants, and Competitions

Living History Farms Teacher of the Year

Know an outstanding teacher that brings history to life? Nominate them for Teacher of the Year. Apply [here](#).

The winner receives:

- A commemorative plaque
- An invitation to become an ad hoc member of the LHF Education Advisory Committee
- Free admission to the 2014 Farmstasia event for two people (\$300 value)



"Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and senators and congressmen .., but the voters of this country."
-Franklin D. Roosevelt

September Observance Day Resources

Constitution Day

- [Department of Education Constitution Day page](#)
- [US Department of Education Constitution Day page](#)
- [Center for Civic Education](#)
- [Video on the Iowa Constitution](#)

Constitution Day Webinar

September 11th

- [US Department of Education 9/11 page](#)
- [9/11 Memorial page](#)
- [Teaching History 9/11 resources](#)

New York Times 9/11 resources

Latino Heritage Month

- [Scholastic resources](#)
- [Smithsonian resources](#)
- [National Education Association resources](#)